

canadian parents for french

HAMILTON-WENTWORTH CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER - VOLUME 9 - ISSUE 1 - WINTER 2009

Frenchstock 2009 comes to Hamilton

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Mohawk College McIntyre Theatre
Performances at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Tickets: \$7

Like its namesake “Woodstock”, Frenchstock is a large-venue concert extravaganza designed to provide an energetic boost and cultural experience for French Immersion and Core French students.

CPF Hamilton-Wentworth presents Etienne and Beebo: Etienne (a French Rock/Rapper) was last in Hamilton for a CPF sponsored concert in 2004. Twice voted as “Canada’s Favourite Children’s Artist of the Year” (CMW Awards/Much-Music/MTV Canada), Etienne appears at

sold-out concert tours throughout the world (Australia, New Zealand, Spain, France and the continental US).

Etienne’s concerts are very much like regular rock concerts. The excitement is unbelievable – kids screaming, holding signs, asking him for his autograph. At one point he will get down on one knee and serenade a teacher... the kids go wild!

Beebo is our opening act. Roland Bibeau started singing songs to entertain his kids when they were small. They loved his songs so much that his hobby grew into Beebo Music. Beebo now has nine albums and entertains kids and families at concerts, festivals, schools and private engagements. He has been writing and

performing music for children for the past 18 years.

To purchase tickets, teachers are asked to check attendance numbers and create one group reservation per school. Send your school name, address, contact information and the required number of seats by fax to 519-978-0097 or by e-mail to info@educorock.com. You will receive a concert information package and concert contract.

For more information, visit the Frenchstock web site at: www.frenchstock.ca. CPF thanks our sponsor, **Carla Larochelle, CFP, CSA of Crawford, Graham & Associates.**



Etienne performs in Hamilton to a sold-out crowd.

Contact Us

Be sure to visit the CPF Hamilton-Wentworth website at www.cpfhamilton.ca for information about our upcoming events, resources for French Immersion parents or to become a CPF member.



Hamilton Reads in French

CPF Hamilton-Wentworth is pleased to be sponsoring a performance by French language storytellers Chantale Groulx and Jennifer McNaughton. Chantale is a member of the Storytellers School of Toronto and has performed frequently at daycares, schools, festivals, and children's museums. She and Jennifer will bring stories to life by acting them out with the help of the children in the audience. The session will feature traditional and modern tales from all over the world in a performance suitable for children ages 3 to 11 years.

All French Immersion children and their parents are welcome to this free Saturday event. Come out and give your child some exposure to French culture outside of the classroom. The event takes place on Saturday, January 24, 2009 starting at 11 a.m. at the Westdale Public Library, 955 King Street West, Hamilton.



Esprit 2008

- **What? A Leadership Weekend Camp for Grade 7 & 8 French Immersion Students**
- **When? February 27 - March 1, 2009**
- **Where? Scanlon Creek Conservation Area in Bradford**

Esprit, meaning "spirit", is a fun-filled weekend where grade 7 and 8 French Immersion students come together and enjoy the great outdoors at the scenic Scanlon Creek Conservation Area. Activities are led by French speaking counsellors and consist of a variety of theme sessions designed to enhance leadership skills through team building events, endurance and creativity

challenges, not to mention cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, music and laughter.

The registration fee, which includes accommodation, meals and workshops is \$150 for members and \$175 for non-members. The non-member fee includes a one-year CPF family membership valued at \$25. Students will stay in dorms (four single bunks to a room) on the site. Transportation to and from the conservation area is the responsibility of the participants. A Welcome Package will be mailed to participants upon receipt of payment and registration forms. Registration Deadline is Friday, February 6, 2009. Visit the CPF Ontario web site for a registration form: www.cpfont.on.ca

Co-op Education in French

Those of us who struggle with math may squirm at the thought of learning it in a second language - but imagine teaching high school math to French Immersion students. Sixteen year old Flora Elliot has been enjoying this challenge for the past several months during her co-operative education placement at Westdale Secondary School.

Flora has put over 280 hours of work into her co-op placement with teacher Suzanne Miller, involving two Grade Ten math classes. She has taught 15 full lessons, and regularly spends her evenings marking or preparing for class. During a typical class she either teaches a lesson, or waits for the lesson to be taught by Ms. Miller, then she distributes the homework she has marked the night before and goes over it with the class. Flora helps any students who are having difficulty and then she collects the homework completed that day and takes it home to mark. And all in French!

"I really enjoy it," says Flora "I like explaining things. It was intimidating at first to teach Grade Ten students who are only a year behind me, but the students are very nice and they appreciate that I am trying to explain things to them. Sometimes it's hard to be fluent in French, but I've always had math class in French, so the terms come to me."

When she graduates, Flora wants to be a secondary school teacher specializing in teaching French Immersion subjects such as math. Her co-op placement will earn her two high school credits -both of them French Immersion credits. "Co-op has given me a glimpse into the future," Flora explains, "Now I know that I really do like teaching, I have experienced the basic responsibilities of a teacher, and I've also had a great chance to practice my French."

Kindergarten Information Nights for French Immersion

It's that time of year again. If you know a family with a child starting Junior or Senior Kindergarten, encourage them to consider French Immersion. School board officials will be holding a series of information nights to tell potential FI parents about the program. CPF members will be at the meetings to answer your questions.

Public School Dates:

(all meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.)

Thursday, January 22, 2009

Norwood Park

165 Terrace Drive 905-575-9808
(West Mountain and Ancaster)

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Lawfield

205 Berko Ave. 905-385-3239
(East Mountain and Upper Stoney
Creek)

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Glen Echo

140 Glen Echo Dr. 905-560-6630
(lower Stoney Creek and East
Hamilton)

Wednesday, February 18, 2009

G.R. Allan

900 King St. W. 905-522-0601
(Dundas and West Hamilton)

Thursday, February 19, 2009

Fessenden

168 Huron Ave., Ancaster
905-648-4115 (Ancaster)

Monday, February 23, 2009

Dundana

23 Dundana Ave., Dundas
905-628-2622 (Dundas)

Tuesday, February 24, 2009

Earl Kitchener

300 Dundurn St. S 905-528-0223
(West and Central Hamilton)

Monday, March 2, 2009

Guy Brown

55 Braeheid St., Waterdown
905-689-8254 (Waterdown)

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

A.M. Cunningham

100 Wexford Ave. S 905-544-7771
(East and Central Hamilton)

Catholic School Dates:

(all meetings begin at 7 p.m.)

Tuesday, February 17, 2009

Sts. Peter and Paul

49 Fennell Avenue East
905-383-4911
(Hamilton Mountain)

Wednesday, February 18, 2009

St. Eugene

120 Parkdale Avenue South
905-545-9598
(Stoney Creek and East Hamilton)

Thursday, February 19, 2008

St. Joseph

270 Locke Street South
905-529-1002
(West and Central Hamilton)

On-Line French Course

If you are looking to enhance your French language skills, why not consider this option? Participants can log on to the course web site anytime and begin learning and speaking French. Retailing at \$300 in CD format, CPF members can purchase a one-year on-line license for the complete set of courses for only \$60 - an exclusive price for CPF members. Others may also purchase the on-line license through CPF at a cost of \$120.

There are six course levels available, from beginner to advanced. You can choose from 10,000 exercises divided among 37 different types of activities based on developing your vocabulary and basic conversation skills. The site contains a glossary of 10,000 words with the option of creating vocabulary lists classified by theme such as history, literature and cuisine. The themes offer the participant a glimpse at French culture and heritage. The technology permits you to imagine yourself sitting in a Parisian café or visiting incredible landmarks. Speech recognition technology allows you to receive immediate feedback on your grammar, sentence structure and pronunciation.

Younger French Immersion students will enjoy the interactive components and will have an opportunity to enhance their own vocabulary along with you. Visit www.cpfont.on.ca for more details.



Limeridge Mall Information Booth

Norwood Park School Council has been publicising French Immersion education for many years. A special Promotions Committee is set up each Fall to ensure that parents find out about Hamilton's only single-track French Immersion school. In past years, students have prepared French language posters which feature their school and these works of art have been posted in area pools, libraries and arenas. This year, you can watch for members of the Norwood Park parent community at Limeridge Mall on Fri., Feb. 6 and Sat+., Feb. 7. These volunteers will be at the Mall's community information booth with flyers and registration forms - looking for people with toddlers in tow so that they can tell them about French Immersion. CPF thanks these hard-working parent volunteers.

CPF Ontario Multi-Cultural Outreach Project

All French Immersion students start off in the same boat as far as French is concerned. Allophone students (those who speak a first language other than English or French) can and do succeed in French Immersion. Studies have shown that studying French can actually increase an allophone's understanding of English.

CPF Ontario has recently initiated a project to decrease barriers to French language learning in multicultural communities. Multilingual brochures have been developed to help promote French Immersion as an option for all youth in Canada. Brochures are available in Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Filipino, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Spanish, Tamil and Urdu and include both English and translated text. In addition, the CPF Ontario website now includes a welcome section providing information about French Immersion in the above languages, as well as Italian and Vietnamese.

Adult French Classes

In September 2004, Hamilton first French-language college access centre opened for business. The Collège Boréal is located at 627 Main Street East (next to the Big Brothers agency). Of special interest to French Immersion parents are the adult French as a Second Language courses the Collège runs each term. These nine courses start at beginner level and progress to intermediate and advanced level.

Each course runs for 15 weeks and costs \$245 plus a \$40 textbook. Each textbook contains materials for 3 beginner, intermediate or advanced courses. The classes are 3 hours long and no class contains more than 15 students. Classes use everyday examples and resources such as newspaper and television to introduce students to the

French language. Emphasis is placed on oral skills through subject related discussions on a different theme each week. Call 905-544-9824 to register for January courses.

In a special partnership with Canadian Parents for French Hamilton-Wentworth, the Collège Boréal is offering a discount for CPF members. The \$40 textbook will be provided free to members of Canadian Parents for French.



Francophone Film Festival

The annual festival du film francophone takes place on February 21 & 22, 2009 at the Marine Discovery Centre, 57 Guise Street E., Hamilton. Family films are listed below. All films will be shown with English subtitles.

Saturday, Feb. 21st

1 p.m. – Un été sans point ni coup sûr (family)

3:30 p.m. – Astérix aux jeux olympiques (family)

Sunday, Feb. 22nd

12 noon – Crêpes Brunch (\$10)

1:30 p.m. – Bienvenue chez les Ch'tis (family)

4 p.m. – Maman est chez le coiffeur (family)

Adults \$9

Students \$7

Family Pass \$25

Seating is limited so buy your tickets early.

For tickets call 905-547-5702

For more information visit:

www.centrefrancais.ca



CPF *Canadian Parents for French*